

Message Text

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SUBJ: PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL COMMEMORATES KOREAN WAR ANNIVERSARY

1. THE JUNE 25 PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL COMMEMORATEATING THE
ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN WAR CONTAINS THE PRC'S FIRST
OFFICIAL REACTION TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S ANNOUNCED PLAN TO
REMOVE US GROUND FORCES FROM SOUTH KOREA. WHILE CREDITING
THE US WITH "MAKING GESTURES" TOWARD WITHDRAWAL OF GROUND
FORCES AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS "UNDER PRESSURE OF PUBLIC OPINION
OF THE WORLD AND PEOPLE INCLUDING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE" THE
EDITORIAL GOES ON TO DENOUNCE US INTENTION TO KEEP ITS
"STUPENDOUS" AIR AND NAVAL FORCES ON THE PENINSULA, AND
DEMANDS THAT US "WITHDRAW FROM SOUTH KOREA COMPLETELY AND
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IMMEDIATELY ITS GROUND, AIR AND NAVAL FORCES".

2. BALANCE OF EDITORIAL FOLLOWS CLOSELY PATTERN OF LAST
YEAR, COMPLETE WITH ATTACK ON PARK GOVT, "BACKED AND MANIPULATED
BY THE US," FOR SUPPRESSING SOUTH KOREAN PEOPLE AND AGGRAVATING
TENSION IN PENINSULA. THE EDITORIAL ALSO REFERS TO THE NORTH
KOREAN FOUR-POINT PROGRAM ISSUED LAST JAN CALLING FOR PEACEFUL

REUNIFICATION OF KOREA.

3. EDITORIAL, AS IN PAST YEARS, INCLUDES PARA REAFFIRMING PRC INTENTION TO RECOVER TAIWAN. ONLY SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IS THAT SCHEMES FOR "THE INDEPENDENCE OF TAIWAN" ARE DENOUNCED ALONG WITH THOSE FOR "TWO CHINAS", "ONE CHINA AND ONE TAIWAN", AND "ONE CHINA, TWO GOVTS".

4. COMMENT: WHATEVER PRIVATE SECOND THOUGHTS PRC GOVT MAY HAVE ABOUT IMPLICATIONS OF US WITHDRAWAL FOR STABILITY IN NORTHEAST ASIA, THE EDITORIAL MAKES CLEAR THAT PEKING INTENDS TO STICK PUBLICLY TO ITS CALL FOR A TOTAL US MILITARY WITHDRAWAL. DEAN UNQUOTE VANCE

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